

**Town of Pomfret
5218 Pomfret Road
North Pomfret, VT 05053**

Draft Minutes of the February 15, 2017 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Sheila Hopkins (Selectboard Member), Frank Perron (Selectboard Member), Melanie Williams, (Selectboard Member), Emily Grube (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Art Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Jonathan Williams (Assistant to the Selectboard – by phone), Neil Lamson, Chris Sargent – by phone, Laura Kent, Betsy Siebeck, Bill Emmons, and Scott Woodward

1. Call to Order: Michael Reese called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
2. Public Comment: (audio 0:30) There was no public comment.
3. Review of Agenda: (audio 0:35) The Agenda was approved as written.
4. Town Meeting Warning Informational Meeting: (audio 2:20) Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion by the Selectboard and the public. There were questions and discussion concerning the town highway budget items, reserve accounts, rainy day funds, capital budgeting, and other items. The Board briefly paused the discussion to allow for the Road Foreman's Report, and then returned to the Informational Meeting. At 8:45pm the Board spoke with Chris Sargent and Bill Emmons concerning the Hamlet/Village Pomfret TRORC Designation Change agenda item, and then returned to the Informational Meeting.
5. Road Foreman's Report: (audio 28:55) The Road Foreman's Report was moved towards the beginning of the meeting (in the midst of the Informational Meeting) so the Road Foreman could then rest and go back to work.
 - (a) General Update: There has been a lot of snow/inclement weather; the road crew has been plowing and sanding. Mechanical problems with the newer truck (3 issues in 14,000 miles) were discussed; a representative from the manufacturer was contacted. Sand is being hauled in. A spring in truck #3 broke and was replaced.
 - (b) Mud Season Road Closures: This item was postponed until the March 1, 2017 Regular Selectboard meeting.
 - (c) Pavement Cracksealing RFB:The Selectboard Assistant shall work with the Road Foreman and generate a pavement cracksealing RFB for review and possible approval by the Board at the next Regular Selectboard meeting.
 - (d) Handy Road Maintenance: Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion.
 - (e) Road Striping: Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion.
 - (f) Oil/Water Separator Cleaning: Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item

and there was discussion. Frank Perron moved, and Emily Grube seconded, that the Board authorize the Chair of the Selectboard to sign the contract and submit it to NRC. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. The Assistant to the Selectboard shall submit the signed contract to the contractor and coordinate the timing of the work with the Road Foreman.

- (g) Better Roads Grant Application: Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. Emily Grube shall work with the Road foreman to identify specific culverts/ditches/projects for which the Selectboard assistant can generate one or more Better Roads grant applications. This item and the 'VTrans Highway Grant Application' shall be added to the next Regular Selectboard meeting agenda. Manufactured sand was discussed. The Board then went back to the Town Meeting Informational Warning.

- 6. Hamlet/Village Pomfret TRORC Designation Change: (audio 1:44:37) at 8:45pm Chris Sargent called in; he and Bill Emmons briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion by the Board and the public. The Board then went back to the Town Meeting Warning Informational Meeting.

- 7. Delinquent Tax Collector's Report: (audio 2:16:57) The Delinquent Tax Collector briefed the Board on ongoing delinquent tax collection efforts. The upcoming tax sale was discussed by the Selectboard and the Delinquent Tax Collector. Michael Reese moved, and Frank Perron seconded, to authorize Sheila Hopkins to act as an agent on behalf of the town to bid on and/or purchase either or both of the properties in the tax sale if there are no other valid purchasers/bidders. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

- 8. Treasurer's Report: (audio 2:28:55)
 - (a) Warrants for Payment (1) Accounts Payable (2) Payroll: Frank Perron moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to approve the warrants #16059, and #16058, with the exception of the payment of \$1,356 to the town of Woodstock in warrant #16059, and the reserve funds for property reappraisal, protective clothing, and communications totaling \$49,833.81 in warrant #16059. There were questions for the Treasurer, and there was discussion. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

- 9. Review, Discussion, and Approval of Minutes (2/01/17): The approval of the 2/01/17 Regular Selectboard meeting minutes was postponed until the March 1, 2017 meeting.

- 10. Fire Protection Agreement: (audio 2:43:03) Sheila Hopkins briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. A Special meeting was tentatively scheduled for February 21, 2017 at 6:30pm to discuss the Fire Protection Agreement.

- 11. Town Hall Committee Members: (audio 2:45:00) Sheila Hopkins briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. Prospective members were

discussed. A list of prospective members was read aloud. The list included: John Moore, Regina Lawrence, Richard Gardner, Loie and Jim Havill, Karen Hewitt, Gaal Crowl, and Doug Tuthill. Michael Reese moved, and Melanie Williams seconded, to approve and appoint the list of members to the Town Hall Committee. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

12. Selectboard Correspondence: (audio 2:48:20) Michael Reese briefed the Board on the received Selectboard correspondence. An email was received from a resident concerning snow removal.
13. Next Meeting's Agenda: (audio 2:50:35) 'Mud Season Road Closures', 'Pavement Cracksealing RFB Approval', 'VTrans Highway Grant Application', 'Better Roads Grant Application(s)', and the 'Approval of 2/1/2017 RSB Minutes', were items scheduled for the first March Regular Selectboard meeting. A Special meeting was tentatively scheduled for February 21, 2017 at 6:30pm to discuss the Fire Protection Agreement and the Chipper's Appeal.
14. Closing Public Comments, Review of Assignments: (audio 2:50:35) There was no closing public comment.
15. Adjournment: Sheila Hopkins moved, and Michael Reese seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55pm. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Date: 02/17/2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Williams, Assistant

Approved by the Board at _____ Meeting